

Hepatitis C (HCV) another virus that attacks the liver, can also cause cirrhosis and cancer of the liver. HCV is passed through contact with infected blood.

Be Aware!

There is **no vaccine** for hepatitis C.

Avoid Hepatitis B and C

- Do not share toothbrushes, razors or any sharp instruments that could have blood on them.
- Do not share needles used for injecting drugs or used in body piercing and tattooing.
- Practice safer sex every time.
- Do not touch blood or open sores on other people.

We're here to help!!!!

Contact us:

- For more information
- Educational exhibits
- Literature on viral hepatitis

Let's work to stop the spread of hepatitis B and C and the cancer they cause.

For more information

Call your health care provider, your local health department or contact



at

www.health.mo.gov/hepatitisc
www.cdc.gov/hepatitis

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
Section for Disease Prevention
P.O. Box 570
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0570

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**Cancer
of the
liver..
STOP
the
spread**

Protect Your Children

NOW!

Know the facts!

You can stop Cancer deaths caused by hepatitis B.

You can be infected by **Hepatitis B** WITHOUT any symptoms because the liver is....**a silent organ.**

The liver is your body's power plant, making energy and vital chemicals that keep you alive.

You may not feel pain even if you are infected.

Hepatitis B is the #1 cause of cancer of the liver among those of Asian decent.

Hepatitis B is up to 100 times more contagious than AIDS!

Hepatitis B can also be called HBV and is found in:

- Blood
- Seminal Fluid
- Vaginal Secretions

HBV is a highly contagious disease of the liver. It can be passed from mother to baby at birth, through sexual contact or by sharing needles used to inject drugs.

HBV enters your body through breaks in your skin or through the mucous membranes.

It travels in your blood-stream to your liver where it attacks liver cells, the workers in your body's power plant.

Hepatitis B causes the liver to become inflamed, and eventually, the virus kills liver cells.

Continued attack by HBV leaves fewer and fewer healthy cells to keep your body working at peak performance!

When liver cells die, they are replaced with scar tissue called cirrhosis.

Cirrhosis can lead to Cancer of the Liver!

How can I find out if I am infected?

Get tested—A simple blood test can tell you if you are infected.

How can HBV be prevented?

Get vaccinated for hepatitis B if you are not infected.

If you are infected...

- Get medical advice about treatment.
- Have your family members tested for hepatitis B.

If your family members are not infected, have them get vaccinated.

- If you are pregnant, your baby must get shots against hepatitis B within 12 hours of birth.
- All your family members should be vaccinated, especially newborns and children through 18 years of age.